

and Jacksonville & South-eastern Rail Roads will sell half-fare tickets to the Old Order Yearly meeting, to be held at Cerro Gordo, Ill., at one fare for the round trip.

Bro. Simon Mikesell and family set an excellent example in giving to the College. The whole family are numbered and do a share.

The Brethren and German Baptists, of Pony Creek church, Kansas, are negotiating with a view of making an amicable division of their church property. The result would be another new church house.

Miami Valley Items.

At our regular meetings at Pleasant Hill, four united with the church.

We always give an invitation at the close of each meeting at this place, as if we were in the midst of a revival meeting. The consequence is that we gather about twenty members each year at our regular meetings.

There is a very nice custom adopted in this church. Whenever any one "comes out" at the meeting, after prayer, we sing a hymn, and the members, and "whosoever will" gives the applicant a hearty welcome into the church.

We had intended having a love feast at our last meeting, but on account of sickness among the members and some of them not knowing of it, it was thought prudent to postpone it until the next meeting. So our love feast will now be on Saturday evening the 2nd of June.

Bro. P. J. Brown will preach for the Pleasant Hill congregation on Saturday evening and Sunday morning, the 19th and 20th of May. And on Sunday evening he will preach at Covington.

Our children's meeting on last Sunday morning at Pleasant Hill was a success. It was truly a children's meeting and the old people seemed to enjoy it as much as the children. It was something entirely new. I had announced that it was expected that the children should do the singing and at least some of the praying, and half the preaching. The children did their part well. Some of them were a little anxious and timid as to how the preaching and praying was to be done by them.

It is well once in a while to have such meetings to let the children know we do take an interest in them. To talk about it is not enough, to do it is better. We have meetings regularly, but the sermons are always preached over the heads of the little ones. No wonder they feel neglected and go to sleep.

"The night brings out the stars," I read somewhere. I thought the other night that during a wet evening, that the night do not bring out very many stars. Trials and afflictions are dark nights in life, and the stars that shine out in practical sympathy at such times are good stars. That is the test to try friendship. It is not the professing that does any good, it is the shining out. So I think rainy nights try the strength of the religion. If the stars do not shine out then there is something wrong. At one of our meetings at Dayton it rained, we had a congregation of six, and I do not think they were all members. That is the reason probably why the church does not grow as rapidly as it ought to.

Protracted meetings at Dayton are not so frequent, that any

could afford to lose or miss them. It is poor encouragement to ask a minister to preach for a week, and then nearly all get scared out for a little rain.

The rain is a much needed blessing, which should make us all rejoice. Public worship is another blessing. Now are we so mysteriously made that we cannot enjoy the two blessings at the same time. Brethren, rain, nice spring showers of rain will not hurt you. I have tried it.

Sometimes for the general good of the church a change is necessary. The change may not suit all alike. But when an individual who does not like it, says that if the change is made he "can be counted out," he is not very far in. We should try to get as far in as possible, and then we will not be tempted to jump the fence at every little thing that do not please us.

Bro. V. E. Wampler has been making great efforts to get reduced fare to the S. S. Convention in Fairview congregation. If the Brethren and their children will only do their duty, fare will be less than half, and there would be a glorious meeting. Some that are really rich will say they cannot spare the money, and a thousand excuses will be given. The truth is, not only every minister in Ohio should be there, but a strong delegation from every church. It seems to me sometimes that we surely are not as enthusiastic as we pretend to be.

Religion does not even take a secondary place in our life work. At least that is how it seems sometimes. It takes less of an excuse to keep a man from doing his duty in religion than at anything else.

Another thing may as well be said about this matter while we are on the subject. Every one knows that I am not much of a man to complain about financial matters. But the way people will come to church and enjoy and praise the meetings and the preaching, without giving one thought as to how the preacher lives is a wonderful stretch of conscience and an instance of gross and unpardonable carelessness and neglect. How can a brother come and shake hands with a minister with a good conscience, who has not ever given a mite to help to keep his family. Yet we have members, who will enjoy the meetings for years and not give a cent to help to keep the poor preacher from acting dishonestly. There is no man so poor that he could not give 5 or 10 cents a month for the support of the minister who has to come irrespective of weather and expense. If a man's religion does not do him that much good, he may as well give it up and try something else. Every member no matter how small, poor or young ought to be taught they must share part of the burden. The cent or mite of the poor is as valuable as the dollar of the rich. If half our ministers were to turn out rascals and robbers, some of the congregation would be partly to blame.

It may be possible that the minister has a little of this world's goods laid by him. But if he drains from his little store all the time and is not adding to it, it will be but a matter of time and the whole will be gone.

Some of our readers may think this is a subject that should not

be permitted in our papers. Whatever others think of it, it is a matter of life and death with the minister.

How to make our S. S. Conventions practical and beneficial, beyond the mere social enjoyments of the hour, is an important question. They should be so conducted that there would be a great improvement in the whole S. S. machinery.

The great Methodist conference now in session in New York has had to put themselves on record this year on the woman question. The lady delegates were voted out. Two votes would have changed the result. One would hardly have thought that the great Methodist church with all their fuss and bluster and claims to progression and advancement were so far behind the time that such intelligent women as Miss Willard could not be permitted to sit as a delegate.

The children deserve great credit for the very interesting letters they write for the paper. The EVANGELIST is always a feast for me, and after I have taken in the stronger meat, some of which turns out to be very strong, then the children's department is my dessert.

I have heard from a few who desire to take a part in our class in Theology. In a short time we will meet and make all the preliminary arrangements.

EDWARD MASON.

From Carleton, Neb.

The church at this place is moving along very pleasantly and we are ready to report seven more accessions by baptism. Among them are several heads of families. We now have preaching twice each Lord's day and also Sabbath school. Our Wednesday evening prayer meetings are growing large and interesting. Our teacher's meeting on Saturday evening are very well attended, and the work done in the school is in consequence very encouraging. Our average attendance so far this quarter is over one hundred. Our collections are always good. Our system of birthday offerings works very nicely and we already have a handsome sum in the hands of the birthday treasurer.

Our young sisters are getting ready to organize the S. S. C. E., and we know they are competent to make it a success when they do start.

We have much reason to be encouraged yet we know we have many things to learn. It seems to me it would be a very good thing for all churches who are getting on successfully to give in the EVANGELIST their way of working. Let us know. How do you conduct your prayer meetings? or how do you work to get a good regular attendance at S. S.? Do you celebrate the Christmas, Easter day or Thanksgiving anniversaries? How? It will soon be time for Children's day exercises. Would it not be a good plan for our editors of the EVANGELIST to give us a program or several programs for Children's day exercises and make a hard effort to raise money for the College at this time? It seems as though if this was properly worked that we would be able to raise a handsome sum of money in this way. I would suggest that some one over there at Ashland where we now expect all these matters to be formulated,

ed, appoint a day to be kept as Children's day, and explain the nature and import of it, tell us what to do and we will give you a good big response at Carleton.

On last Wednesday evening's prayer meeting it was decided that at our next meeting we will gather up a ballet, each member present voting his own name and all those whom he has personally called on and solicited to attend the prayer meeting. Our pastor is to have these slips of papers and see who has been at work and who has been solicited. The results of this effort are not yet known, but it will no doubt put a great many to work and accomplish some good.

H. M. LIGHTY.

College of St. James, Md.

On Sunday, April 29, we received four more into the church. Three were baptized and one by relation. The church of God closed the door of their church upon us, or at least upon me, and perhaps they thought they would put a stop to our work. But while I was in Virginia, some of our live brethren secured a small house near Fair Play and got Bro. Jerrold to preach, and so the good work continues and the end is not yet. We feel grateful to our church of good brethren for the use of their church, and I am sure it they want to preach in our church, we will return the favor.

"God works in a mysterious way his wonders to perform."

We felt sad when we were informed that we had to close our meeting, because we felt our work was not done, but I believe it will be for the best in the long run. I believe the closing of said church against us will be the cause of a new house to be erected. Then none can hinder us or make us afraid. May the Lord help us in our contemplation and in the building of a house to worship in.

On last Sunday, May the 6th, I baptized a young lady after services, here at St. James.

I closed my first year's work here in Maryland the first of April with 60 confessions, 58 united to the church and two applicants. I feel that I ought to have done a great deal more, though I am not discouraged, because I know I have not had enough experience to do a great work. This was my first year of pastoral work. Brethren and sisters I ask an interest in your prayers that I may do a greater work for the Lord in the future.

ISAAC D. BOWMAN.

Balto, Md., and Other Points.

DEAR EVANGELIST:—After having spent between four and five months with the brethren in Washington Co., Md., and preached in the neighborhood of one hundred sermons during that time, I can truly say that the people of Funkstown, Mapleville, St. James, Tightmantown, Fairplay and Downsville, are a kind-hearted people and deeply interested in the Lord's work. I will leave Bro. I. D. Bowman, of St. James, to tell you of the number of conversions and immersions at these places. My associations with Bro. Bowman were very pleasant. He is a whole-hearted Christian gentleman and the different churches in his district are fortunate to have such an excellent pastor.

I am now on my way home to

Philadelphia, but have laid over in Balto to spend a season with friends. I wish to rest a week or two after I arrive in Philadelphia. After that, if any of our churches wish to engage a pastor, let them write to me on the subject, as I am now ready to settle down if the Lord opens the way. Where are those churches that have no pastors? Let them speak for themselves. Here am I, and in Philadelphia is brother Leach, who is an ordained minister in our denomination—neither of us have charges. I feel more than ever encouraged to point sinners to "the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world." I feel that I am well saved. To God be all the glory. If any of our churches wish to write to me my address will be as usual, Elder E. M. Jerrold, care of Rev. A. Atwood, corner 10th and Locust Sts., Phila., Pa.

DEAR BRETHREN:—Notwithstanding all difficulty, we are yet alive and at work in the vineyard of the Lord. Brother S. P. Stevens, of Monroeville, Indiana, was with us last Sabbath and baptized Mr. C. R. Sprinkle, whose parents are members of the Brethren church. The person baptized was formally a student of the Ashland, Ohio, College. Pray for us.

H. SPRINKLE.

Huntington, Ind., May 7, 1888

The Campbell Brethren church will hold their Communion meeting, the Lord willing, on the 16th and 17th days of June. The meeting will be held at the residence of Bro. and sister Noah Henney, two and one half miles east of Freeport, in Iowa Co., Mich. All of like precious faith are heartily invited to partake with us, the holy ordinances of God's house. Those coming from the north by railroad, will come to Freeport on the Lowell & Hastings R. R. Those from the south and east will stop at Hastings, where conveyances will be ready if the undersigned is notified of your coming.

J. G. WINEY.

Campbell, Mich.

The brethren near Aurelia, Iowa, expect to hold their Communion on May 26th, commencing at two o'clock. All are cordially invited to attend.

S. T. GROVE.

Communion services at the Salem Church, Howard Co., Ind., May 2nd, 1888. (Probably June 2nd.) beginning at 5 o'clock p. m. All are invited. By order of the church.

J. W. FITZGERALD.

The Johnstown church, Pa., will have communion services on the evening of the 27th of May, to which a general invitation is given.

DANIEL CROFFORD.

The Brethren at Dunlaps, Ind., will hold their communion, May 26th. A cordial invitation is extended to all who can be with us. SAMUEL MOUNTJOY, Clerk.

OUR CHURCH.

Four were added to the Milford church, on Lord's day, May 6th.

Bro. J. W. Fitzgerald reports one more baptized, on the 6th of this month.

The church near Sweet Home, Ind., is prospering greatly under the charge of Bro. I. N. Miller.

Bro. E. L. Yoder expects to be with the brethren at their love-feast at Echo, Kansas, on May 20.

Bro. S. H. Bashor writes from Sacramento, Cal., that his address for three weeks after May 25th, will be at Longmont, Colorado. He expects to come east in time for the fall and winter work.

To The Annual Meeting.

Tickets will be on sale at Ashland, for the German Baptist Annual Meeting, on and after May 15th, to the 23, at one fare for the round trip.